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REPORTS BY DIVISIONS AND GOVERNMENTS ON THE SITUATION IN THEIR REGIONS AND COUNTRIES AND ON THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES SINCE THE SIXTH CONFERENCE

Report of the United Kingdom

Paper submitted by the United Kingdom**

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SECTION A: ADMINISTRATIVE REORGANISATION

The United Kingdom divisional report to the Eighteenth Session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names in 1996 (Working Paper No 39) provided detailed background information, maps and lists concerning the major restructuring of local government underway in England, Wales and Scotland (Northern Ireland remaining unaffected).

Wales and Scotland were divided in April 1996 into a number of unitary authorities, which may be considered as single-tier administrative structures with no further sub-divisions. There are 32 unitary authorities in Scotland and 22 in Wales; the titles of those in Wales are bilingual in English and Welsh. In England, the arrangement is more complicated in that a mixture of unitary authorities and counties has been approved, largely as the result of the canvassing of local preferences. Whereas the unitary authorities are single-tier structures, the English counties are two-tier entities in that each is sub-divided into a varying number of districts. This process began in April 1995, and by the time that the reorganisation in England is completed, on April 1st 1998, there will be 115 single-tier authorities and 35 counties. Of the 115 single-tier authorities, 46 are officially classified as unitary authorities, 33 as London boroughs, and 36 as metropolitan districts, though all are unitary in nature.

Some counties (Avon, Cleveland, Humberside) have been abolished altogether. A few traditional counties which had lost their individual identities in the previous major reorganisation of 1974 have been reinstated; Worcestershire, for example, is once again a county in its own right; and both Rutland and Herefordshire have also re-emerged (as unitary authorities). Conversely, the county of Berkshire is set to disappear in April 1998, to be replaced by six individual unitary authorities.

Yet the name "Berkshire" will not be lost entirely. Along with Greater London and the six former metropolitan counties, (Tyne and Wear, West Yorkshire, South Yorkshire, Greater Manchester, Merseyside, West Midlands), Berkshire will be deemed as continuing to exist for ceremonial purposes. This means that each of these areas continues to constitute a Lieutenancy, with a Lord Lieutenant in residence as the representative of the Crown. These names may also continue to exist in other contexts, for example in the titles of integrated transport systems. But, crucially, they have no relevance to the administrative structure of the territory of the United Kingdom, and are of no significance to the geographer or cartographer. One outcome of this reorganisation is that there is no longer a single administrative entity covering the capital city of the United Kingdom; London exists as a single populated place encompassing 33 separate single-tier authorities (London Boroughs).

It is sometimes the case that the name of the administrative division gives no immediate clue as to the names of the populated places contained therein. Thus, for example, Sefton includes Southport, while Halton comprises Runcorn and Widnes. Furthermore, since the various responsible agencies of each administrative unit (eg health, education etc) are frequently located in separate towns, it is not consistently possible to name a single administrative centre for each unit. Administrative units containing the term "City" in their title are larger in territorial extent than the actual populated places (cities) of the same name.

ENGLAND

Barking and Dagenham	UA (LB)	East Sussex	TT
Barnet	UA (LB)	Enfield	UA (LB)
Barnsley	UA (MD)	Essex	TT
Bath and North East Somerset	UA	Gateshead	UA (MD)
Bedfordshire	TT	Gloucestershire	TT
Berkshire	TT/a	Greenwich	UA (LB)
Bexley	UA (LB)	Hackney	UA (LB)
Birmingham (City of)	UA (MD)	Halton	UA/b
Blackburn with Darwen	UA/b	Hammersmith and Fulham	UA (LB)
Blackpool	UA/b	Hampshire	TT
Bolton	UA (MD)	Haringey	UA (LB)
Bournemouth	UA	Harrow	UA (LB)
Bracknell Forest	UA/b	Hartlepool	UA
Bradford (City of)	UA (MD)	Havering	UA (LB)
Brent	UA (LB)	Hereford and Worcester	TT/a
Brighton and Hove	UA	Herefordshire	UA/b
Bristol, City of	UA	Hertfordshire	TT
Bromley	UA (LB)	Hillingdon	UA (LB)
Buckinghamshire	TT	Hounslow	UA (LB)
Bury	UA (MD)	Isle of Wight	UA
Calderdale	UA (MD)	Isles of Scilly	TT
Cambridgeshire	TT	Islington	UA (LB)
Camden	UA (LB)	Kensington and Chelsea	UA (LB)
Cheshire	TT	Kent	TT
Cornwall	TT	Kingston upon Hull, City of	UA
Coventry (City of)	UA (MD)	Kingston upon Thames	UA (LB)
Croydon	UA (LB)	Kirklees	UA (MD)
Cumbria	TT	Knowsley	UA (MD)
Darlington	UA	Lambeth	UA (LB)
Derby (City of)	UA	Lancashire	TT
Derbyshire	TT	Leeds (City of)	UA (MD)
Devon	TT	Leicester (City of)	UA
Doncaster	UA (MD)	Leicestershire	TT
Dorset	TT	Lewisham	UA (LB)
Dudley	UA (MD)	Lincolnshire	TT
Durham	TT	Liverpool (City of)	UA (MD)
Ealing	UA (LB)	London, City of	UA (LB)
East Riding of Yorkshire	UA	Luton	UA

Notes:

TT = county (two-tier structure)
UA = unitary authority (single-tier structure ie. Borough, London Borough or Metropolitan District)
LB = London Borough
MD = Metropolitan District
a = structure due to cease operating on 31 March 1998
b = structure due to come into operation on 1 April 1998

Manchester (City of)	UA (MD)
Medway Towns, The	UA/b
Merton	UA (LB)
Middlesbrough	UA
Milton Keynes	UA
Newbury	UA/b
Newcastle upon Tyne (City of)	UA (MD)
Newham	UA (LB)
Norfolk	TT
North East Lincolnshire	UA
North Lincolnshire	UA
North Somerset	UA
North Tyneside	UA (MD)
North Yorkshire	TT
Northamptonshire	TT
Northumberland	TT
Nottingham (City of)	UA/b
Nottinghamshire	TT
Oldham	UA (MD)
Oxfordshire	TT
Peterborough	UA/b
Plymouth (City of)	UA/b
Poole	UA
Portsmouth (City of)	UA
Reading	UA/b
Redbridge	UA (LB)
Redcar and Cleveland	UA
Richmond upon Thames	UA (LB)
Rochdale	UA (MD)
Rotherham	UA (MD)
Rutland	UA
St. Helens	UA (MD)
Salford (City of)	UA (MD)
Sandwell	UA (MD)
Sefton	UA (MD)
Sheffield	UA (MD)
Shropshire	TT
Slough	UA/b
Solihull	UA (MD)
Somerset	TT
South Gloucestershire	UA
South Tyneside	UA (MD)
Southampton (City of)	UA
Southend on Sea	UA/b
Southwark	UA (LB)
Staffordshire	TT
Stockport	UA (MD)
Sunderland (City of)	UA (MD)
Surrey	TT
Sutton	UA (LB)
Swindon	UA
Tameside	UA (MD)
Thurrock	UA/b
Torbay	UA/b
Tower Hamlets	UA (LB)
Trafford	UA (MD)
Wakefield (City of)	UA (MD)
Walsall	UA (MD)
Waltham Forest	UA (LB)
Wandsworth	UA (LB)
Warrington	UA/b
Warwickshire	TT
West Sussex	TT
Westminster (City of)	UA (LB)
Wigan	UA (MD)
Wiltshire	TT
Windsor and Maidenhead	UA/b
Wirral	UA (MD)
Wokingham	UA/b
Wolverhampton	UA (MD)
Worcestershire	TT/b
Wrekin, The	UA/b
York (City of)	UA

Stockton on Tees		UA
Stoke on Trent	(City of)	UA
Suffolk	TT	

WALES

English language name		Welsh language name
Blaenau Gwent	CB	←—
Bridgend	CB	Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr
Caerphilly	CB	Caerffili
Cardiff (City of)	C	Caerdydd
Carmarthenshire	C	Sir Gaerfyrddin
Ceredigion*	C	Sir Ceredigion*
Conwy	CB	←—
Denbighshire	C	Sir Ddinbych
Flintshire	C	Sir y Fflint
Gwynedd	C	←—
Isle of Anglesey	C	Sir Ynys Môn
Merthyr Tydfil	CB	Merthyr Tudful
Monmouthshire	C	Sir Fynwy
Neath Port Talbot	CB	Castell-nedd Port Talbot
Newport	CB	Casnewydd
Pembrokeshire	C	Sir Benfro
Powys	C	←—
Rhondda, Cynon, Taff	CB	Rhondda, Cynon, Taf
Swansea (City of)	C	Abertawe
Torfaen	CB	Tor-faen
Vale of Glamorgan, The	CB	Bro Morgannwg
Wrexham	CB	Wrecsam

* This name derives from Cardiganshire, but note that the name of the town in this unit remains Cardigan (in English) or Aberteifi (in Welsh)

All 22 divisions are unitary authorities, but 11 are known as counties (C) and 11 as county boroughs (CB). cf England, where counties are two-tier authorities.

SCOTLAND

Aberdeen City
Aberdeenshire
Angus
Argyll and Bute
Clackmannanshire
Dumfries and Galloway
Dundee City
East Ayrshire
East Dunbartonshire
East Lothian
East Renfrewshire
Edinburgh, City of
Falkirk
Fife
Glasgow City
Highland
Inverclyde
Midlothian
Moray
North Ayrshire
North Lanarkshire
Orkney Islands
Perth and Kinross
Renfrewshire
Scottish Borders, The
Shetland Islands
South Ayrshire
South Lanarkshire
Stirling
West Dunbartonshire
West Lothian
Western Isles

All 32 units are unitary authorities officially termed Council Areas.

SECTION B: INFORMATION FROM THE ORDNANCE SURVEY

The Ordnance Survey large-scale database, relating to map series at scales of 1:10,000, 1:2,500 and 1:1,250, has now been completed and is available in a wide variety of digital and graphic output products. As far as geographical names are concerned, the principal Ordnance Survey products of interest are:

1. OSCAR	A range of four digital road centreline products containing place names, road and street names, and Department of Transport road numbers. It is supplied in 5x5km, 50x50km, and 100x100km tiles.
2. Strategi	A 1:250,000 database aimed at planning and analytical applications. It contains a geographical names layer and is supplied by 50x50km tile or on a regional or national coverage basis.
3. ADDRESS-POINT	A national dataset that defines and locates residential, business and public postal addresses. It is supplied by 1x1km tile, postcode unit, and administrative area.
4. Gazetteer of Great Britain	A hardback gazetteer containing over 250,000 names extracted from the 1:50,000 (Landranger) series. It is also available in digital form by 20x20km tile, 1:50,000 map sheet number, and nationally.

Map sheets of the 1:50,000 (Landranger) series falling wholly or partially in Wales will in future show a full and separate legend in the Welsh language. One such sheet has already been published in July 1997 in this new specification: sheet 135, Aberystwyth and Machynlleth. On the face of the map equal status is given to the Welsh equivalents of major settlement names and selected physical feature names. The method of portrayal is to show the English name first, with the Welsh name following after a separating solidus (slash). In addition, the map cover is bilingual.

Finally, a systematic revision of Gaelic names on the six 1:50,000 sheets covering the Western Isles of Scotland (sheets 8, 13, 14, 18, 22, 31) was completed in 1997.